

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 3-19-57

Week Ending 3-16-57

WEATHER Temperatures averaged below normal over the western portion of the State to a little above in the southeast, with warm during the first three days, followed by cold weather Thursday and Friday, and again at the close of the week. Moderate to heavy snow fell over the northeastern portion of the State Thursday, and light snow in the central and southeast. Moderate to locally heavy rains fell over the southeastern, east central, and south central portions of the State Sunday night, and heavy snow in the northeast; with much blowing and drifting. Several days were very windy, with much blowing of soil Tuesday and Wednesday.

CROPS Moderate to heavy rains and snowfall at the end of last week and on Sunday eased the critical drought in eastern Nebraska as many sections received close to an inch or more of precipitation. This checked drought damage to winter wheat and should help pastures get started. Rainfall was too light in much of the south central area and in the southwestern and Panhandle counties to bring relief. Throughout most of the week the wheat crop took a bad beating from strong winds and severe dust storms. Erosion damage was fairly widespread as some of last year's corn and sorghum fields were blowing badly along with some fields of wheat and other fall seeded crops.

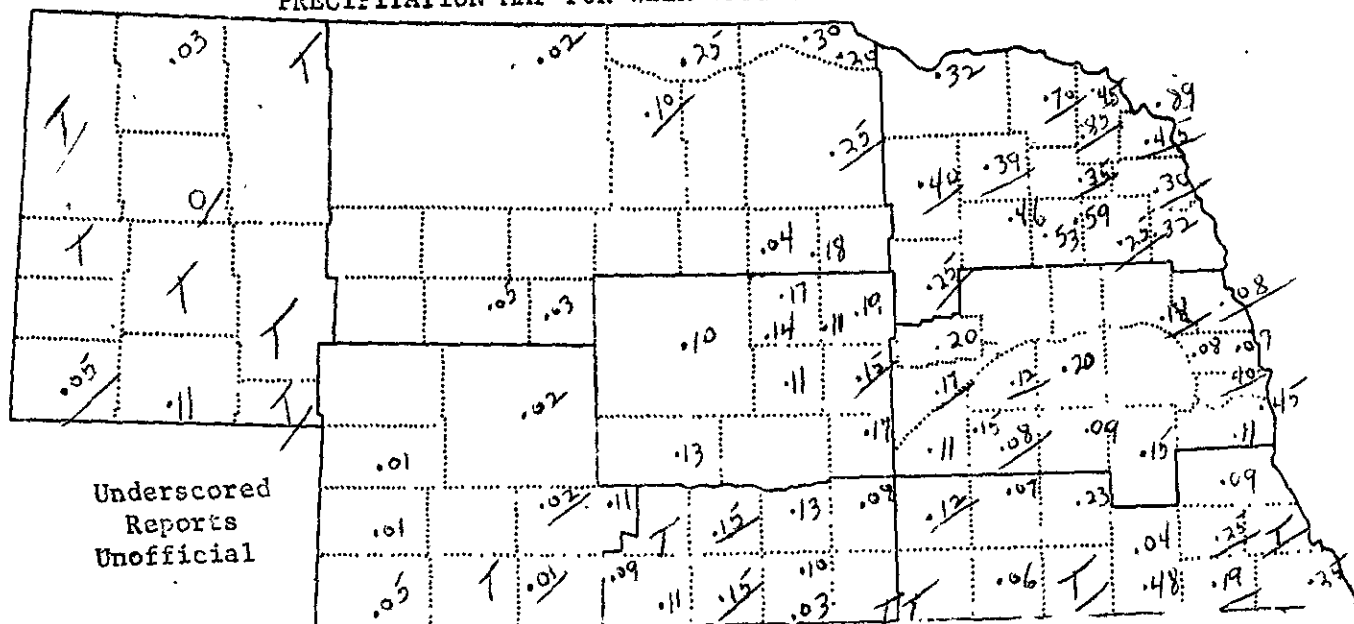
Planting of small grains made a limited start before the rains, and field preparation and erosion control work gained momentum. Areas favored with precipitation will start field work and spring planting of small grains on a full scale as soon as the surface is dry enough to work. In the northeast where heavy snows fell, field work was at a standstill. In the central counties, pre-season irrigation continued in efforts to build up soil moisture reserves. Farmers were generally busy throughout the week getting ready equipment, fertilizer and seed supplies.

LIVESTOCK It was another good week for livestock. Marketings of cattle were still running heavy from areas with extreme feed shortages and poor spring pasture feed prospects. Cattle on feed were making good gains. Litter sizes are well above average with lighter than usual early pig losses. February shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into Nebraska were 27,000 head compared with 23,000 last year. Sheep and lambs shipped in totaled 39,000 head for February 1957, 43% more than a year earlier.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 18, 1957

<u>Eastern Division</u>	<u>Central Division</u>	<u>Western Division</u>
Grand Island .95	Burwell .97	Chadron .05
Lincoln .75	North Platte .48	Imperial .01
Norfolk 1.55	Valentine .17	Scottsbluff .02
Omaha .59		Sidney .19
Sioux City 1.62		

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 15, 1957



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		March 12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th		18th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	51	27	66	36	44	18	41	11	52	15	--	--	29	22
	Scottsbluff	51	27	66	39	43	19	42	15	58	24	--	--	29	22
	Sidney	49	28	66	39	46	18	38	15	53	21	--	--	30	19
NC	Burwell	52	21	71	29	57	19	26	7	41	22	40	24	35	26
	Valentine	50	20	66	34	45	18	25	3	37	16	38	22	27	24
NE	Norfolk	48	25	74	30	56	23	29	14	32	16	39	24	34	31
	Sioux City	47	25	69	35	62	29	33	17	33	16	38	25	38	33
CEN	Grand Island	55	32	74	39	63	22	26	13	42	25	52	29	35	30
EC	Lincoln	55	37	73	51	73	28	38	18	45	27	56	32	55	38
	Omaha	51	30	72	41	72	30	34	15	36	22	49	29	51	38
SW	Imperial	53	25	71	36	59	19	41	9	56	20	--	--	32	19
	North Platte	52	24	70	34	59	20	37	14	56	23	53	26	30	23

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